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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 10/801,328 | 03/15/2004 | Glenn R. Engel | 10031346-1 | 1942 |

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AGILENT TECHNOLOGIES, INC.
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| EXAMINER | |
|---|---|
| SINGH, RAMNANDAN P | |

| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|---|---|
| 2614 | |

DATE MAILED: 04/13/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 10/801,328 | ENGEL, GLENN R. | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Ramnandan Singh | 2614 | |

*-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --*

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *15 March 2004*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-15* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-15* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *15 March 2004* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date (i) *Mar. 15, 2004, (ii) Jul. 29, 2005*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Information Disclosure* Statement

1. The information disclosure statement filed Jul. 29, 2005 contains three non-English documents: (i) DE 10124691, (ii) De 10209339 and (iii) Sikora, A. "Rapid Spanning Tree, Power-Over0Ethernet", which are in German Language. These three documents have not been considered because, for non-English documents that are cited, applicants have not provided a concise explanation of the relevance unless a complete translation is provided. See MPEP § 609.01 (B) (3).

### *Claim Objections*

2. Claim 6 is objected to because of the following informalities:

Claim 6 recites the limitation "wherein the power repeater **comprising** one of " in line 1. Replace the word "**comprising**" with the word "**comprises**".

Appropriate correction is required.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1-3, 5-7, 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Keyghobad et al [US 6,640,308 B1].

Regarding claim 1, Keyghobad et al teach a system for supplying power to multiple devices shown in Fig. 3, the system comprising:

a first device (310) receiving power over a first Power over Ethernet (PoE) connection (315); and

one or more downstream devices (325) receiving power from the first device (310), wherein the first device supplies at least a portion of the power received over the first PoE connection (315) to at least one of the one or more downstream devices (320) [Fig. 3; col. 4, lines 41-54; col. 1, line 61 to col. 2, line 24; Abstract].

Claim 15 is essentially similar to claim 1 and is rejected for the reasons stated above.

Regarding claim 2, Keyghobad et al further teach the system comprising a power device (305) connected to the first device (310) and supplying power to the first device over the first PoE connection (315) [Fig. 3].

Regarding claim 3, Keyghobad et al further teach the system, wherein the first device includes a power repeater (i.e. hub) [Fig. 3].

Regarding claim 5, Keyghobad et al further teach the system, wherein the power repeater is implemented within the first device (310) [Fig. 3].

Regarding claim 6, Keyghobad et al further teach the system, wherein the power repeater (310) comprising an Ethernet hub [Fig. 3].

Regarding claim 7, Keyghobad et al further teach the system, wherein the one or more downstream devices (320) are connected to the first device (310) in a hub-and-spoke (i.e. star) configuration with the first device comprising the hub in the hub-and-spoke configuration [Fig. 3], and wherein the power repeater (310) supplies at least a portion of the power received over the first PoE connection (315) to all of the downstream devices (320) over a PoE connection associated with each downstream device [Fig. 3].

5. Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Lehr et al [US 6,643,566 B1].

Regarding claim 1, Lehr et al teach a system for supplying power to multiple devices shown in Figs. 2A and 2B, the system comprising:

a first device (18) receiving power over a first Power over Ethernet (PoE) connection [Fig. 2A]; and

one or more downstream devices including telephones 76, 80 and 102, and computer 96 receiving power from the first device (18) , wherein the first device supplies at least a portion of the power received over the first PoE connection to at least one of the one or more downstream devices [Figs. 2A, 2B; col. 6, line 25 to col. 8, line 19].

Claim 15 is essentially similar to claim 1 and is rejected for the reasons stated above.

Regarding claim 2, Lehr et al further teach the system comprising a power device (64) connected to the first device via router (66) and supplying power to the first device (18) over the first PoE connection [Fig. 2A].

Regarding claim 3, Lehr et al further teach the system, wherein the first device (18) includes a power repeater (i.e. hub or switch) [Fig. 2A].

Regarding claim 4, Lehr et al inherently teach the system, wherein the power repeater (i.e. hub) is connected to the first device (18) comprising a power/data combiner (i.e. adapter) and a hub/switch [Fig. 2A]. For example, Binder [US 20050083959 A1] shows a device (70a) comprising HUB (31a) and adapter (21a) connected to a power device (11) [Figs. 8, 7A].

Regarding claim 5, Lehr et al further teach the system, wherein the power repeater (i.e. hub) is implemented within the first device (18) [Fig. 2A].

Regarding claim 6, Lehr et al further teach the system, wherein the power repeater comprises one of an Ethernet hub or an Ethernet switch [Fig. 2A].

Regarding claim 7, Lehr et al further teach the system, wherein the one or more downstream devices (76, 80, 90) are connected to the first device in a hub-and-spoke configuration (i.e. star configuration) with the first device (18) comprising the hub in the hub-and-spoke configuration, and wherein the power repeater (i.e. hub) supplies at least a portion of the power received over the first PoE connection to all of the downstream devices (76, 80, 90) over a PoE connection associated with each downstream device [Fig. 2A].

Regarding claim 8, Lehr et al further teach the system, wherein the one or more downstream devices 94, 96) are connected to the first device (18) in a linear configuration (i.e. in a series) , and wherein the power repeater (i.e. hub) supplies at least a portion of the power received over the first PoE connection to a first downstream device (90) over a PoE connection between the first device and the first downstream device [Fig. 2A].

Regarding claim 9, Lehr et al further teach the system, wherein each downstream device (90) supplying power to a subsequent downstream device (94) includes a power repeater (i.e. hub/switch) that supplies power using respective PoE connections [Fig. 2A].

Regarding claim 10, Lehr et al teach a system for supplying power to multiple devices shown in Figs. 2A and 2B, comprising:

a power device (18);

a plurality of powered devices (78, 90) each connected to the power device (18) using a Power over Ethernet (PoE) connection and receiving power from the power device over the PoE connection [Fig. 2A; [Figs. 2A, 2B; col. 6, line 25 to col. 8, line 19]; and

one or more downstream devices (80, 102) each connected to a respective powered device using a PoE connection and receiving at least a portion of the power received by the respective powered device over the PoE connection [Fig. 2A].

Regarding claim 11, Lehr et al further teach the system, wherein each powered device in the plurality of powered devices (18, 90) includes a power repeater (i.e. hub) [Fig. 2A].

Regarding claim 12, Lehr et al further teach the system, wherein at least one of the power repeaters (90) is connected to a respective powered device (96).

Regarding claim 13, Lehr et al further teach the system, wherein at least one of the power repeaters is implemented within a respective powered device (90).

Regarding claim 14, Lehr et al further teach the system, wherein each power repeater (18, 90) comprises one of an Ethernet hub or an Ethernet switch [Fig. 2A].

6. Claims 1, 10-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Edison et al [EP 0964551 A1].

Regarding claim 10, Edison et al teach a system for supplying power to multiple devices shown in Fig. 5, comprising:

a power device (201) (parent);

a plurality of powered devices (204) (grandchildren) each connected to the power device (201) using a Power over Ethernet (PoE) connection and receiving power from the power device over the PoE connection [Figs. 1-5; Para: 0037-0041; 0016-0018; 0030-0033; claims 1-10]; and

one or more downstream devices (great grandchildren) (Family tree) each connected to a respective powered device using a PoE connection and receiving at least a portion of the power received by the respective powered device over the PoE connection [Para: 0045-0046].

Claims 1 and 15 are essentially similar to claim 10 and are rejected for the reasons stated above.

Regarding claim 11, Edison et al further teach the system, wherein each powered device in the plurality of powered devices includes a power repeater (i.e. hub) [Fig. 1].

Regarding claim 12, Edison et al further teach the system, wherein at least one of the power repeaters (i.e. hubs) is connected to a respective powered device (11) [Fig. 1; Para: 0022].

Regarding claim 13, Edison et al further teach the system, wherein at least one of the power repeaters is implemented within a respective powered device.

Regarding claim 14, Edison et al further teach the system, wherein each power repeater comprises an Ethernet hub (12) [Fig. 1].

***Conclusion***

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

(i) Eidson et al [US 6,889,095 B1] teach a network for connecting a plurality of devices [Figs 1-5; Abstract]; and

(ii) Lehr et al [US 7,006,815 B2] teach a power supply subsystem for powering a node [Figs. 1-24; Abstract].

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ramnandan Singh whose telephone number is (571) 272-7529. The examiner can normally be reached on M-TH (8:00-5:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Fan Tsang can be reached on (571) 272-7547. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Ramnandan Singh
Examiner
Art Unit 2614